

What is claimed is:

1. A mounting bracket, comprising:
a plurality of permanently bendable support rods each comprising opposing first and second end portions;
5 means for clamping the first end portions of the plurality of support rods in a fixed arrangement; and
means for securing the second end portions of the plurality of support rods relative to an external surface.
2. The mounting bracket of claim 1, further comprising means for fixing an external device
10 to the clamping means.
3. The mounting bracket of claim 2 wherein the securing means further comprises means for permanently securing one or more of the second end portions of the plurality of support rods relative to an external surface.
4. The mounting bracket of claim 3 wherein the securing means further comprises means
15 for resisting relative slipping of one or more of the second end portions of the plurality of support rods relative to an external surface.
5. The mounting bracket of claim 1 wherein the means for clamping the first end portions of the plurality of support rods in a fixed arrangement further comprises means for clamping each of the first end portions between an external collar and an internal wedge.
- 20 6. The mounting bracket of claim 5 wherein the means for clamping each of the first end portions between an external collar and an internal wedge further comprises clamping a lengthwise portion of each of the first end portions in a lengthwise cylindrical cavity.
7. The mounting bracket of claim 6 wherein the lengthwise cylindrical cavity further comprises a cavity formed between a pair of lengthwise part cylindrical relief grooves formed
25 between the external collar and internal wedge.

8. The mounting bracket of claim 1, further comprising a flexible sheath substantially covering each of the plurality of permanently bendable support rods.
9. A vehicle mounting bracket, comprising:
a plurality of elongated permanently bendable support rods each comprising a first end
5 portion structured for being clamped, and an opposite second end portion structured for being secured relative to an external surface;
a clamp mechanism structured for clamping the first end portions of the plurality of support rods in a fixed arrangement; and
a shoe mechanism coupled to the second end portions of one of the plurality of support
10 rods, the shoe mechanism being structured for securing the respective second end portion relative to an external surface.
10. The mounting bracket of claim 9 wherein the clamp mechanism further comprises a female collar and a male wedge with one of the collar and the wedge being structured with a plurality of relief grooves each structured to accept the first end portion of one of the plurality of
15 support rods.
11. The mounting bracket of claim 10, further comprising:
three of the elongated permanently bendable support rods; and
wherein the clamp mechanism is further structured for clamping the first end portions of the plurality of support rods in a fixed tripodal arrangement.
- 20 12. The mounting bracket of claim 9 wherein each of the elongated permanently bendable support rods further comprises a rod formed of a metal selected from the group of metals consisting of: steel, copper, permanently bendable copper alloys, aluminum, and permanently bendable aluminum alloys.
13. The mounting bracket of claim 12 wherein each of the elongated permanently bendable
25 support rods further comprises a cylindrical rod formed of a permanently bendable aluminum or aluminum alloy having a substantially constant diameter in the range of 1/4 inch to 1 inch.

14. The mounting bracket of claim 12 wherein:
each of the elongated permanently bendable support rods further comprises a cylindrical rod;
the clamp mechanism is structured with a plurality of part cylindrical reliefs, each of the
5 part cylindrical reliefs being structured for clamping the first end portion of one of the plurality of support rods; and
15. The mounting bracket of claim 14 wherein the clamp mechanism further comprises an external collar and mating wedge with the plurality of part cylindrical reliefs formed therebetween.
- 10 16. The mounting bracket of claim 14 wherein each of the plurality of part cylindrical reliefs further comprises a pair of part cylindrical reliefs with complementary part cylindrical reliefs formed in an internal surface of the collar and an external surface of the wedge.
17. The mounting bracket of claim 16, further comprising an elastically flexible sheath substantially covering each of the elongated permanently bendable support rods between the
15 clamp and shoe mechanisms.
18. A vehicle mounting bracket, comprising:
a plurality of permanently bendable support rods each having first and second lengthwise end portions at opposite ends thereof;
a clamp for joining the support rods in a fixed arrangement, the clamp comprising:
20 an outer female collar forming therein a cavity having at intervals around an inside wall surface thereof a plurality of relief grooves that are sized for nesting of the first lengthwise end portion of one of the support rods, one of the plurality of relief grooves being formed for each of the plurality of support rods,
an inner male wedge having at intervals around an outside wall surface thereof a
25 plurality of relief grooves that are sized for nesting of the lengthwise end portion of one of the support rods, one of the relief grooves being formed in a complementary configuration with a corresponding one of the relief grooves formed on the collar inside wall surface for forming a plurality of pairs of complementary relief grooves with one of the pairs being provided for each

of the support rods, each of the plurality of pairs of complementary relief grooves partly enclosing a lengthwise space that is smaller than the respective support rod end portion; and
means for urging the male wedge into the outer female collar with each of the support rod lengthwise end portions securely captured the lengthwise space partly enclosed by one of
5 the pairs of complementary relief grooves.

19. The mounting bracket of claim 18, further comprising a shoe coupled to the second lengthwise end portion of one or more of the support rods, the shoe being structured with means for securing the respective second end portion relative to an external surface.

20. The mounting bracket of claim 19 wherein the shoe further comprises one of: a shoe
10 structured for being permanently fixed to an external surface with a mechanical fastener, and a shoe structured for resisting slipping relative to an external surface.

21. The mounting bracket of claim 18 wherein the plurality of permanently bendable support rods each further comprises a bendable metal rod.

22. The mounting bracket of claim 18 wherein the collar further comprises a rigid mounting
15 platform portion formed opposite from cavity having the plurality of relief grooves formed therein.

23. The mounting bracket of claim 22 wherein the plurality of permanently bendable metal support rods further comprises a cylindrical support rod formed of a metal selected from the group of metals consisting of aluminum and permanently bendable aluminum alloys.

20 24. The mounting bracket of claim 22 wherein the plurality of permanently bendable metal support rods further comprises a substantially cylindrical support rod with the first and second lengthwise end portions at opposite ends thereof being substantially cylindrical lengthwise end portions.

25. The mounting bracket of claim 24 wherein the plurality of relief grooves formed in one or both of the collar and wedge clamp portions further comprises part cylindrical relief grooves sized to nest the first lengthwise cylindrical support rod end portions therein.